

**WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:**

1. A method of providing a user interface for invoking a function related to a state indicator in a portable terminal displaying the state indicator, 5 which indicates a state change, the method comprising the steps of:

registering the related function for the state indicator when a state change to be reflected in the representation of the state indicator occurs;

altering the state representation of the state indicator; and

invoking the registered function upon receipt of a user input for 10 designating the state indicator.

2. A method of providing a user interface for invoking a function related to a state indicator in a portable terminal displaying the state indicator, which indicates a state change, the method comprising the steps of:

15 registering the related function for the state indicator when a state change to be reflected in the representation of the state indicator occurs;

altering the state representation of the state indicator;

determining whether the coordinates of a touch screen input indicate the representation area of the state indicator upon receipt of the touch screen input; 20 and

invoking the registered function when the coordinates of the touch screen input indicate the representation area of the state indicator.

3. A method of providing a user interface for invoking a function 25 related to a state indicator in a portable terminal displaying the state indicator, which indicates a state change, the method comprising the steps of:

registering the related function for the state indicator when a state change to be reflected in the representation of the state indicator occurs;

altering the state representation of the state indicator;

30 determining whether a cursor or an input focus is positioned over a

representation area of the state indicator upon receipt of a user button input; and  
 invoking the registered function when the cursor or input focus is  
 positioned over the representation area of the state indicator.

- 5           4.       A method of providing a user interface for invoking a function  
 related to a state indicator indicating message arrival in a portable terminal where  
 the state indicator is displayed on a screen of a touch screen input/output device  
 when the message arrives, the method comprising the steps of:

              registering a message reading function for the state indicator when the  
 10 message arrives;

              displaying the state indicator;

              determining whether coordinates of a touch screen input indicate a  
 representation area of the state indicator upon receipt of the touch screen input;  
 and

- 15           invoking the message reading function when the coordinates of the touch  
 screen input indicate the representation area of the state indicator.

5.       A method of providing a user interface for invoking a function  
 related to a state indicator indicating alarm setting in a portable terminal where  
 20 the state indicator is displayed on a screen of a touch screen input/output device  
 when an alarm is set, the method comprising the steps of:

              registering an alarm function for the state indicator when the alarm is set;

              displaying the state indicator;

- determining whether coordinates of a touch screen input indicate a  
 25 representation area of the state indicator upon receipt of the touch screen input;  
 and

              invoking the alarm function when the coordinates of the touch screen  
 input indicate the representation area of the state indicator.